

S/N Parent: 09/045,213

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Douglas W. Kohrs Examiner: Parent: B. Snow  
Serial No.: Parent: 09/045,213 Group Art Unit: Parent: 3738  
Filed: February 6, 2001 Docket No.: 6683.26USC1  
Title: INTERVERTEBRAL IMPLANT WITH REDUCED CONTACT AREA  
AND METHOD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By:

Name:

*Brian Mahoney*  
*Brian Mahoney*

#3  
*For*  
*Amend*  
*B*

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment and Remarks before examination of the above-identified patent application.

In the Specification

At page 1, after the Title, please insert the following:

--Cross-Reference to Related Applications

The present application is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/045,213 filed March 20, 1998, which application is incorporated herein by reference.--

*Now U.S. Patent No. 6,224,631,*

*B*  
*9/28/04*

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Inventor(s):** DOUGLAS W. KOHES  
**Appl. No.:** 09/777,631  
**Filing Date:** February 6, 2001  
**Title:** INTERVERTEBRAL  
IMPLANT WITH REDUCED  
CONTACT AREA AND  
METHOD

**Examiner:** B. SNOW**Group Art Unit:** 3738**Docket No.** 75028-307895**RECEIVED  
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AUG 31 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING FACSIMILE  
TRANSMITTED TO THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (FAX  
NO. (703) 872-9306), ON AUGUST 31, 2004.

*Elaine Raiten*  
Elaine Raiten

**REPLY**

This Reply is responsive to the outstanding Final Office Action mailed July 2, 2004. No fee is thought to be necessary. However, if any fee is required for entry of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account 06-0029 and is requested to notify us of the same. This Reply includes the following:

- **Amendments to the Claims** as reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.
- **Remarks** beginning on page 8 of this paper.